



MITCHELL E. DANIELS, Jr., Governor
STATE OF INDIANA

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY JOSEPH E. WAINSCOTT, JR., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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Wainscott New IDHS Executive Director

Governor Mitch Daniels has named Joseph E. Wainscott, Jr., a training and law enforcement veteran, as the new executive director of the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS).

Wainscott began his duties today, March 17, 2008.

Wainscott, who grew up in Madison County, has been the IDHS director of training since October 2005 and has been responsible for managing and coordinating training and exercise programs and overseeing the Indiana Firefighter Training System, among other duties. He established the 10 multi-county fire training districts and helped fund more accessible training facilities for firefighters to build their skills.

As IDHS's executive director, Wainscott will be responsible for the state's emergency management and homeland security efforts, which include planning and assessment, preparedness and training, emergency response and recovery, fire and building safety and the Indiana Intelligence Fusion Center.

"The safety of Hoosiers is our first priority at all times," said Wainscott. "It's a challenge, and we are constantly investing resources to prevent, protect, respond to and recover from all types of natural and man-made hazards."

"One important focus will be the regular and consistent training of first responders. With the district system now in Indiana, our public safety professionals have more accessible opportunities to improve their individual and collective skills, which better equips them to protect Hoosiers."

"As the Indiana Department of Homeland Security watches out for the residents of Indiana, we also want to enlist the aid of citizens – keep them actively engaged – in their and their neighbors' safety."

For three years before joining IDHS, Wainscott was the law enforcement coordinator for the U.S. Attorney's Office-Southern District of Indiana. He also is a 23-year veteran of the Indiana State Police (ISP).

With the U.S. Attorney's Office, he worked as a liaison between the office and federal, state, county and local law enforcement agencies in the southern two-thirds of Indiana. He also was responsible for public safety training, terrorism, asset forfeiture and federally funded crime suppression initiatives.

During his 23 years with the ISP, Wainscott served as assistant district commander of Indianapolis Post, District 52, and was a member of the Emergency Response Team (SWAT) for 19 years and team leader for 12 years. He continues to serve as a member of the Indiana State Fraternal Order of Police Memorial Team.

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Wainscott is a certified Indiana Law Enforcement Academy instructor, specializing in the area of Police Tactical Operations and Tactical Units. He also has served as an advisor for the Indiana School Safety Specialist Academy and received national certification in school safety leadership from the National School Safety Center.

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